

# Agency 34 - Nebraska Library Commission

## Statutory Authority:

The Nebraska Library Commission was created by the Nebraska Legislature in 1901. Its organization and duties are set forth under Chapter 51, Article 4, Sections 401-418 of the REVISED STATUTES OF NEBRASKA, 1984, REISSUE OF 1978 ([www.nlc.state.ne.us/libdev/liblaws/chap51.html#51-401](http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/libdev/liblaws/chap51.html#51-401)). The Library Commission also serves as the state library administrative agency for federal funds received under the Library Services and Technology Act 1996, Public Law 104-208. Information on the LSTA Act may be viewed on the Institute of Museum and Library Services web site ([www.imls.gov/](http://www.imls.gov/)).

## Vision Statement:

Affordable, reliable, progressive, and equitable library service for all Nebraskans regardless of their economic status and geographic location.

SOURCE: The Nebraska Library Commission's complete long range plan "Libraries for the 21st Century: Nebraska Library Commission Library Services and Technology Act Five Year Plan" (October 1, 1997 - September 30, 2002) is available to the public on the agency website ([www.nlc.state.ne.us/mission/lsta.html](http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/mission/lsta.html)).

## Mission Statement:

The mission of the Nebraska Library Commission is statewide promotion, development, and coordination of library and information services. As the state library agency, the Commission is an advocate for the library and information service needs of all Nebraskans. The Nebraska Library Commission strives to increase access to resources and services for all Nebraskans regardless of economic status, geographic location, gender, age, literacy level, ethnicity, physical or mental disability, or other relevant factors.

## Goals:

1. Nebraskans will have access to statewide library and information services regardless of format or location.
2. New and innovative library service arrangements will be encouraged to provide efficient access to library and information services for Nebraskans.
3. Nebraskans will have access to information technology through library and information centers.
4. Nebraskans will be served by library staff with the knowledge and expertise to link them with the highest quality library and information services.
5. All Nebraskans will have access to library and information services including persons with diverse geographic, cultural, and socioeconomic backgrounds; with disabilities; with limited functional literacy or information skills; having difficulty using a library; representing underserved urban and rural communities (including children from families with incomes below the poverty line).
  - a. Provide Talking Book and Braille Service to qualified Nebraskans.
  - b. Promote and support library and information services to non-English speaking Nebraskans and individuals with limited English speaking ability.
  - c. Develop, maintain, and support library services to children and young adults.
6. Improve the operations, facilities and resources of the Nebraska Library Commission to achieve agency goals 1-5.

## Financial Data:

	Actual FY00	Approp FY01	Request FY02	Recom FY02	Request FY03	Recom FY03
General Fund	3,499,250	3,621,766	4,470,564	3,702,113	4,496,068	3,784,268
Cash Fund	67,538	136,387	136,387	138,539	136,387	140,755
Federal Fund	1,182,997	1,053,246	1,067,017	1,082,216	1,067,017	1,097,736
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Agency	4,749,785	4,811,399	5,673,968	4,922,868	5,699,472	5,022,759

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## Program 252 - Statewide Library & Information Services

### Program Objectives:

Program 252: Statewide Library and Information Services consists of the following components: Agency Support services, Library Development services, Network services, Reference and Information services, and Talking Book and Braille services.

Goals, activities and evaluation measures for the Nebraska Library Commission are identified in the agency long range plan "Libraries for the 21st Century: Library Services and Technology Act Five Year Plan" (October 1, 1997 - September 30, 2002) which may be requested from the Library Commission or viewed on the World Wide Web ([www.nlc.state.ne.us/mission/lsta.html](http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/mission/lsta.html)).

Specific objectives for each of the major service areas of the Nebraska Library Commission are enumerated in the "Supporting Information" section of this narrative.

### Financial Data:

	Actual FY00	Approp FY01	Request FY02	Recom FY02	Request FY03	Recom FY03
General Fund	2,123,588	2,209,512	2,233,860	2,289,859	2,233,860	2,372,014
Cash Fund	67,538	136,387	136,387	138,539	136,387	140,755
Federal Fund	548,937	507,003	520,774	535,973	520,774	551,493
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Agency</b>	<b>2,740,063</b>	<b>2,852,902</b>	<b>2,891,021</b>	<b>2,964,371</b>	<b>2,891,021</b>	<b>3,064,262</b>

### Performance Measures:

The following performance measures were selected as highlights of NLC activities during the past two years. Complete outcomes are outlined in the "Supporting Information" section.

1. The Library Commission assisted Nebraska public libraries in applying for discounts through the Universal Service Fund (a provision of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996), and hosts a website with erate-related information (see [www.nlc.state.ne.us/nsf/telecommunications.html](http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/nsf/telecommunications.html)). Seventy-one Nebraska public libraries (and the Nebraska Library Commission) are recipients of e-rate discounts for the second year (1999) of the program. The total of \$144,883 in discounts will help public libraries provide more effective services to patrons. (see [www.nlc.state.ne.us/libdev/erate/YearTwoE-Rate1999.html](http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/libdev/erate/YearTwoE-Rate1999.html))
2. In FY2000, Nebraska public libraries were awarded \$287,892 in LSTA funds for technology and other projects. (see [www.nlc.state.ne.us/nsf/lsta.html](http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/nsf/lsta.html))
3. In 1999 and again in 2000, the Commission negotiated a contract for a statewide purchase of several electronic databases on behalf of all libraries in the state of Nebraska. In FY 99/00 over 800 public, academic, school and special libraries subscribed to 32 databases.
4. During FY2000, the Talking Book and Braille Service circulated 148,122 books in record formats and in Braille, 40,812 recorded magazines, and 412 videos with audio description.
5. Twenty-seven talking books were recorded in Library Commission studios in FY2000.
6. Library Commission staff answered a total of 8,932 reference questions in FY1999 and FY2000.
7. During FY2000, Nebraska Library Commission homepage users viewed over 2,332,104 pages or an average of 194,342 pages a month.
8. In FY2000, a total of \$15,000 in state funds was awarded to 12 public libraries for specialized programs offering service to youth.

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### Program 302 - Government Aid

#### Program Objectives:

The Government Aid Program provides state and federal aid funds to improve local library services by increasing access to library service through expansion of library service units, encouraging cooperation and partnerships among all types of libraries, and strengthening the operations, facilities, and resources of libraries. The major Aid packages are Nebraska Lender Compensation, Public Library Aid, Public Library Technology, Regional Library Systems, Statewide Electronic Databases, Training & Continuing Education, and Urban Library System. A more detailed description of each Aid package is included in the "Supporting Information" section of this narrative.

#### Financial Data:

	Actual FY00	Approp FY01	Request FY02	Recom FY02	Request FY03	Recom FY03
General Fund	1,375,662	1,412,254	2,236,704	1,412,254	2,262,208	1,412,254
Cash Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Fund	634,060	546,243	546,243	546,243	546,243	546,243
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Agency</b>	<b>2,009,722</b>	<b>1,958,497</b>	<b>2,782,947</b>	<b>1,958,497</b>	<b>2,808,451</b>	<b>1,958,497</b>

#### Performance Measures:

Performance measures for the major aid packages, Nebraska Lender Compensation, Public Library Aid, Public Library Technology, Regional Library Systems, Statewide Electronic Databases, and Urban Library System, are provided in the "Supporting Information" section of this narrative.

Goals, activities and evaluation measures for the Nebraska Library Commission are identified in the agency long range plan "Libraries for the 21st Century: Library Services and Technology Act Five Year Plan" (October 1, 1997 - September 30, 2002) which may be requested from the Library Commission or viewed at [www.nlc.state.ne.us/mission/lsta.html](http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/mission/lsta.html).